

August 12, 1987

TO: File

FROM: Frank R. Jensen, Soils Reclamation Specialist *Frank Jensen*

RE: Atlas Minerals, Cactus Rat Mine, ACT/019/009

On July 15, 1987, Frank Filas and I met with Terri McParland of the BLM, Richard Blubaugh and Carl Dixon of Atlas Minerals, and Joe Bierschied, Reclamation Contractor at the Cactus Rat Mine. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss proposed reclamation of the mine by Atlas Minerals.

Later that day and on July 16, we visited other mines reclaimed by Atlas. The reclamation work on several of these mines had been done by Bierschied. It became obvious that Atlas and Mr. Bierschied have much more experience in reclamation than most operators. As a summary statement, the earthwork done by Bierschied was excellent. Revegetation success was also excellent, except on one area that didn't have topsoil put on it (this was in Colorado).

Items discussed included: getting back 70 percent of the original ground cover, putting on topsoil, seeding rates, seeding methods, and fertilization.

The usual recommendation is 20 lbs/acre of seed for broadcasting and half that amount if it is drill seeded. Mr. Bierschied has been using less seed, however, his broadcast and seed covering methods are about the same as drilling since he uses a small farm tractor and implements - much different than most operators.

A suggestion was also made to broadcast 200 lbs/acre of diammonium phosphate 18-46-0 at the time of seeding.